Lets Dive into Open Source ?

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- **Open and Closed source softwares.**

- **Few _Free_ Alternatives to most commonly used proprietary or paid software.**

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- **Some pros and cons of open source software.**

- **Our YouTube channel :-** http://bit.ly/2mbShhK **(Knowledge Epicenter)**

- **Our Blog:-** https://www.knowledgetohumanity.blogspot.com

- **My other articles :-**

- https://goo.gl/a0cAxd**(Achieving Destiny : An Inspiring Talk)**

- https://goo.gl/bmQiBA**(Nokia : A Journey Of Success, Fall and Rebirth)**

- **You can reach me at** Adnanmemon672000@yahoo.com

Before going ahead lets see types of software

- *Open Source Softwares*
- *Closed Source Softwares*

Source ? What's this first we should get answer to this question.

As the world describes its the core of something, in our context of software core is code or its whole coding.

Coding are methods of developing software (its language) for example C, C++, C#, Java, oracle, python, go, php, swift (for ios developers), JavaScript, ruby etc.

Now lets bring the train back on track

➢ Closed Source or Proprietary Software

In simple words, these software are owned by the company or publisher and its source code is kept secret and only known to its programmers and owners.

People have to purchase their software to be able to use it. This could be either one time purchase (Windows OS) or a subscription package (Microsoft Office).

Person has rights to use software but has no right to modify, redistribute (this depends upon license bidden with it some shareware grant right to redistribute unlimited copies), or view source code.

Example of closed source are

Windows OS, Microsoft Office, Adobe Photoshop, Auto Cad, WinRAR etc.

➤ Now Coming to Open Source

As the name suggest its source code is open to all (most source code are hosted on git hub and other such repositories).

The user can modify source code as per his requirement (if he wants more than programmed features) by editing source code and compiling it again.

Usually, all open source software hosters allow the community to participate in development activities, bug spotting and feature development from any corner of world can contribute to open source projects.

Most OSP are free to use without any payment or subscription packages.

They are licensed under GPL or GNU or Apache or Mozilla or any other famous free software foundation licenses.

Examples of Open source are
VLC player, Linux distributions, Firefox, chrome, etc.

Conclusion of all thesis in layman's term is

Open source software are free.
Closed source software are paid in most cases.

Now reading all this many users would make a mind of replacing there day to day used software to open source cutting down there IT budget.

So I have created a long list of open source alternatives according to categories.

First of all King of softwares.

* Microsoft Office Suite

This software has made us slave due to its extensive use and wide features like word, excel, power point, etc.

Alternatives are here :-

- [Apache Open Office](#) -(Which is actually used to write this article.) Its currently developed by Apache foundation from USA.

- [LibreOffice](#) - A fork of OpenOffice developed by document foundation from Germany.

- [Abiword](#) - A open source word processor, alternatives to Microsoft word by Abisource

Coming to Music and videos

- Keeping aside all paid players, every one is familiar with [VLC player](#)

- This software doesn't need any introduction, its famous than all other paid softwares.

- No other player has these guts to support all kind of video formats as VLC supports.

- Its developed by VideoLan

- There's one more player [GOM player](#) (its not open source but a free player with no premium versions)

- Its developed by Gomlabs

Lets organise and manage mail with these open sources

First name coming in mind with the word mail management is Microsoft Outlook.

We can alternate this with
Mozilla Thunderbird (from makers of Mozilla Firefox)

second player is Evolution mail client

Lets browse the internet with these open giants

Mozilla Firefox

Alternative to Internet Explorer (which isn't supported any more after release of Microsoft Edge with Windows 10)

There are three more Opera Browser, UC browser and Chrome these are not open source but are free for use with out any hidden payments (they may include a few ads)

Everyone likes designing but when it comes to PCs the price tag of softwares changes mind

So lets make mind set firm by these

GIMP (Gnu image manipulation program)

This program is fierce competitor of Adobe Photoshop

learning and mastering this might be little curve

For 2D animation

Synfig Animation Studio

A big name once when it was a heavily paid one but, now its free and open-source

Open Toonz is one more name but I haven't used it. (just google it)

For 3D animation

[Blender](#)

For vector drawing

[Pencil](#)

[Ink Scape](#)

For making layouts, publishing etc.

Big names like Microsoft Publisher and Adobe InDesign

Alternative is [Scribus](#)

For CAD (here you will get a long list because I am a CAD user)

Big names play here are AutoCAD, Creo, Inventor, Solid works etc.

Open-source software are

Libre CAD

Free CAD

OpenSCAD

OpenJSCAD

Solve Space

BRL CAD

Archimedes

Free ware Vari CAD, Nano CAD, Iron CAD, Drafsight etc.

Space Simulation

Celestia

Planetarium

Word Processors with auto formatting

Tex live

MikTEX

LATEX editors are Tex Studio, Tex works

Scilab a alternative to Matlab, a **high level numerical computation programs.**

Oh! sorry forgot about OS (Operating System)

Big name in world of open-source

Linux

many variants are available these are

Ubuntu Linux

Red Hat Linux

Fedora Linux

Linux Mint

Kali Linux

and the most popular

ANDROID

Some open-source Android apps

[KISS Launcher](#) (Keep It Stupid And Simple)

[Telegram Messenger](#)

[World Map](#)

[Clip Stack Clip Board Manager](#)

[K9 Mail Client](#)

[QKSMS](#)

[Swift Notes](#)

[Amaze File Manager](#)

" Every Coin has Two Sides "

So lets see both sides of this coin

Benefits

* Free

* Full Freedom to use it in any way

* You can modify source code as you like if you have a little coding experience

Problems

- May not be instant Supportive.

- Some times may include some hidden costs or extra cost.

- Less User Friendly interface.

- Mind of every one is not same, some may use source code to resolve bugs, some may exploit the system with the help of that bug

- Sudden change to such software may decrease the efficiency of employee, its better to pay few bucks for softwares rather than decreasing productivity.

You Can Reach me at
adnanmemon672000@yahoo.com